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BY

**William R. Stackhouse &  
Powell Stackhouse, Jr.**

With an Introduction by  
A. M. Stackhouse. M. D.

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## INTRODUCTION



THE name Stackhouse is a somewhat uncommon one and wherever it appears as the cognomen of a white person, we have every reason to believe that were records extant we could in all instances trace it back to the family who in remote times gave the name to or received it from, the little hamlet of Stackhouse in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England. Because the name is uncommon it attracts the attention of the family genealogist whenever he sees it in print. It was generally supposed that the Quaker contingent of the family who settled in Bucks County, Pennsylvania in the eighth decade of the seventeenth century were the pioneers of the name in America. Some years ago however while rummaging among the dusty annals of the past I was surprised to learn that one Richard Stackhouse was among the Puritan colonists of Massachusetts almost fifty years before Thomas and John, whose history is given in the following pages came to Pennsylvania. In Felt's "Annals of Salem" we find that land was granted to Richard Stackhouse in 1635. It is probable that he was in somewhat reduced circumstances for in 1653, "for the relief of his family" the profits of the ferry "towards Ipswich" were granted to him provided he could procure boats and men. This ferry was at Beverly and it appears he held this position until 1686 and lived at that place. His wife's name was Susanna and she "joined the church" in 1648. His children, Jonathan, Abigail and Hannah were baptized in May 1648; Ruth on July 8, 1649; Samuel on February 13, 1653 and Mary on June

25, 1654. The daughters may have married and the blood descended under other names but I am inclined to believe that the sons, Jonathan and Samuel died without issue as a diligent search has so far failed to find any further trace of this branch of the family. This view of the matter is somewhat confirmed by the fact that the family genealogists, Powell and William R. Stackhouse have informed me that in all their researches they have failed to find anyone of the name whom they had reason to suspect came from this branch.

So far as I am aware the first member of the Stackhouse family who attempted to collect genealogical data of our history was Amos Stackhouse, 1757-1825, a great grand son of Thomas, the immigrant. He was a man of some literary attainments and was for some years engaged in teaching school at Mount Holly, New Jersey. His life was passed mainly in that place and in Philadelphia. The results of his labours were somewhat meagre and mostly confined to tradition; however a nucleus was established. His son Powell Stackhouse, Sr., 1785-1863, took up the work where his father laid it down and pushed his inquiries still further. His interest in the work led him to look up every one bearing the name if accessible. He resided in Philadelphia and in those days there were many of the name there. The story is told that on one occasion he learned that a family of the name of Stackhouse resided in the lower part of that city and one morning he sallied forth to interview them to find out "where the relationship came in". To his intense disgust the family turned out to be *negroes*. It is needless to say he abandoned summarily—abolitionist as he was—all desire of establishing relationship. In explanation of this it may be said that in Colonial days when slavery existed in the North, many of the slaves assumed the names of their masters and this was the case no doubt in the instance recited.

The researches of Powell Stackhouse, Sr., materially enriched the collection of his father Amos. His mantle in turn



fell upon his son, Powell Stackhouse, Jr., 1827-1900, *par excellence* the historiographer of the Stackhouse family. In his view tradition though valuable and not to be despised was nevertheless unsatisfactory and he brought to bear the methods of the scientific genealogist in prosecuting the work. Years were spent in examining records of all kinds,—meeting, church, court and other official collections that might throw any light on his labours or establish any fact of interest. In the course of his inquiries he wrote thousands of letters and many to whom this book may come will remember his faultless calligraphy. His energy was untiring and no failure of apathetic correspondents to reply to his inquiries discouraged him, and in most cases he would finally succeed in obtaining the information sought for. He made every effort to ensure accuracy and year after year the work went on, following out clues, verifying, adding little by little to his store of data until one day the pen dropped from his tired hand and the involved and intricate skein of ancestry and descent that puzzled him so often in this mortal life were doubtless untangled and made makes straight in that light which all things clear.

Some fifteen years ago William R. Stackhouse, 1870—a great grandson of the above mentioned Amos became interested in our family history and began the work of tracing the descent of certain branches of John, the immigrant, that had not previously engaged the attention of Powell, Jr. This was successfully carried out and other branches were then traced in collaboration with Powell, Jr. His attention was then drawn more particularly to the earlier English history of the family and the book entitled “Stackhouse, An Old English Family Sometime of Yorkshire” recently published by The Settle Press of Moorestown, New Jersey is largely the results of his researches.

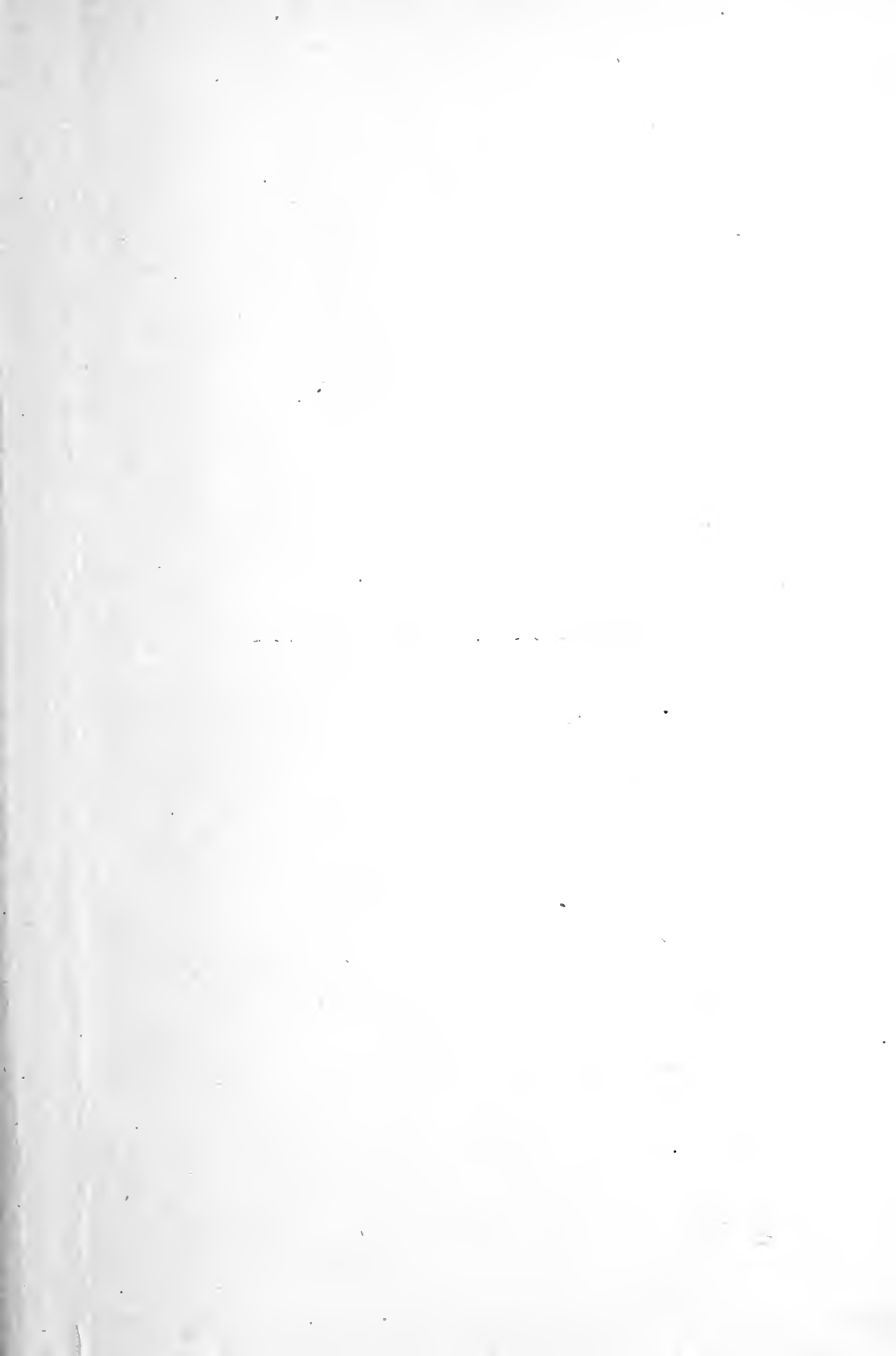
Together, there has been accumulated a large collection of data concerning the family,—genealogical, biographical and historical. We hope that some day it may see the light in print but we regret that there is so little interest taken in our

family history by those who bear the name or carry the blood.

One word more before closing. The records of our family will afford but cold comfort I fear to those who seek through the name to become members of the Revolutionary Societies that are so popular now. It is true that a few of the name are to be found in our revolutionary annals but the family as a whole had strong Loyalist leanings and by reason of their fealty to the Crown attained to a certain degree of fame or—notoriety—the reader may use whichever word suits his or her views.

A. M. STACKHOUSE.

2nd. mo. 13th, 1907.



THOMAS STACKHOUSE

Thomas Stackhouse married (*1st*) Grace Heaton, daughter of Robert and Alice Heaton, at Middleton Meeting, Bucks County, Penna., on 7th mo. 27th, 1688.

### ISSUE

<b>2</b>	Samuel	b. 8. 17. 1689			m. Eleanor Clark
<b>3</b>	John	3. 27. 1691			Single
<b>4</b>	Robert	9. 8. 1692	d. 1788	m.	Margaret Stone
<b>5</b>	Henry	10. 7. 1694			Jane
<b>6</b>	Grace	11. 7. 1696	6. 5. 1777		David Wilson
<b>7</b>	Alice	2. 1. 1699			Euclydus Longshore
<b>8</b>	Thomas	2. 2. 1701			Elizabeth
<b>9</b>	Joseph	5. 20. 1703			Sarah Copeland
<b>10</b>	Benjamin	10. 25. 1705			Sarah Gilbert

Thomas Stackhouse married (*2nd*) Ann Mayos widow of Edward Mayos, at Falls Meeting, Bucks County, Penna., on 1st mo. 1st, 1711.

### ISSUE

<b>11</b>	Isaac	b. 3. 11. 1712	d. 2. 4. 1714		Single
<b>12</b>	Jacob	8. 25. 1713		m.	Hannah Watson
<b>13</b>	Ann	5. 15. 1715			Charles Plumley
<b>14</b>	Sarah	6. 6. 1718	5. 25. 1808		Samuel Cary
<b>15</b>	Isaac	7. 5. 1720	1. 17. 1791		Mary Harding

Thomas Stackhouse married (*3rd*) Dorothy Heston, widow of Zebulon Heston, on 8th mo. 1725.

### NO ISSUE



LET us pause for a moment in this mad rush for money, for honours, and for the gratification of our ambitions and leave the dusty road of the Present. To our right and to our left are many pleasant alleys, cool and quiet, lit with somber glow, showing vistas of other lives, with which we are not acquainted. Let us take one of these, that will lead us into the Past and we may there find that the Past can still teach lessons to the Present and when we come back to our present surroundings, we may bring with us the benefit of these lessons, to assist us in the future. If we fail in this at least, we can bring back with us a sweet aroma that will idealize many a day hereafter.

Backward into the past we go then, backward over two hundred years, to study the life of one Thomas Stackhouse. His long life was a widely varied scene and while it was not without its shadows, we think the light predominated and that his was a happy, as it certainly was a successful, life, if we measure it by modern standards.

The first definite knowledge we have of Thomas Stackhouse dates just 218 years ago, when in 1682, we find he appended his name to a document in this Country. He came from the ancient Deanery of Craven, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, in Old England; the exact date of his arrival we do not know. Tradition, (which in this instance is most probably correct,) states that he was twenty one years of age, at the time of his

arrival. But two other members of his Family left their old home with its comforts and civilization to come to the New World with its religious freedom. They were his brother John,—probably a younger brother,—who was a member of the Society of Friends, and a preacher among them, (*John Fothergill's Journal*; “*A Retrospect of Early Quakerism*,” by Ezra Michener p. 163.) and an uncle, Thomas Stackhouse, Sr., who was likewise a prominent Friend. An error has crept into many accounts that Thomas Stackhouse was the son of this Thomas Stackhouse, Sr., but such is not the case. In the Will of the last mentioned, he is distinctly called his nephew. (*Will of Thomas Stackhouse, Sr. dated 9. 26. 1705, proved Sept. 2, 1706, reg. at Philadelphia in Will Book C, p. 40, &c.*)

And we shall first take up his Real Estate transactions, for this seems to have been the first enterprise he engaged in, upon coming to the Colony. Indeed, he probably purchased his first land in Pennsylvania from the Proprietary, before he himself came over.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

The first tract of land surveyed to him was one of 507 acres in County Bucks, Province of Pennsylvania, which adjoined the land of Robert Heaton, (subsequently his father in law,) of William and Charles Biles, and his uncle Thomas Stack-

house, Sr. This land is located on the Neshaminy Creek, in Middletown Township. The place soon grew into a hamlet; a Meeting was established there; and it eventually became known as Middletown. It changed its name several times; was subsequently called Attleborough; and is now known as Langhorne. I have been informed that the tract which Thomas Stackhouse thus took up in this Township was a few years ago owned by ex-Mayor Warwick, of Philadelphia. (*Holme's Map of Pennsylvania*).

In the year of 1707 he purchased a large tract of 1200 acres from Francis Richardson. It may perhaps be well to go into the history of this piece of land to a short extent. I believe it has a frontage on the River Delaware and ran back into the County to within about three miles from Thomas Stackhouse's land above mentioned. It was formerly known as the Hampton Farm, on which the old Indian Town, or field, of Playwickey stood. It had been sold by William Penn and his agents to Francis Richardson, Sr., sometime in the year of 1687, but was not patented to him until 1692. Francis Richardson, Sr., with his wife and a son John died a few years thereafter, leaving but two other children surviving, namely a son Francis and a daughter Rebecca, in whom the land vested. Rebecca married Thomas Murray and in 1707 she parted with her share to her brother Francis, who thereby became seized of the entire 1200 acres in fee and was thus enabled



to give to Thomas Stackhouse a good title for the same. Thomas Stackhouse seems to have kept the tract until 1711, when he sold 224 acres thereof to Zebulon Heston, who thereupon gathered up his household goods, including his wife Dorthy, and his progeny, and settled himself upon his newly acquired possession. Here, Zebulon lived until his death in 1721, or 1722 (*Josiah B Smith, in an article in a newspaper.*) and a few years following this melancholly event, the widow was comforted and became the third spouse of Thomas Stackhouse.

In reference to this Richardson Tract (*Vide Holme's Map of Bucks County.*) or Hampfon Farm, as it was called, we have spoken of the old Indian Town of Plawickey. In an alleged treaty with the Indians, August, 30th, 1686, this village is styled "Playwiskey", a construction of the word possibly more appropriate than the one commonly given. One of the boundaries of the first purchases of land from the Indians, made by William Markham, a cousin of William Penn, on July 15th, 1682, of what is now known as Bucks County, is stated to have been "a corner white oak, marked with the letter P. standing by the Indian path, that leads to the Indian town called Playwicky." (*Davis' "History of Bucks County."*)

Surveying in the Colonies in the early days was not the accurate science that it is to day. The Surveyors were generally gentlemen, who dressed at all times *a la mode*, and with their

neatly polished boots and silken hose, when mounted on horseback, did not always feel inclined to dismount and carry a line through marshes and virgin forests abounding in brambles, which were no respecter of persons. The accuracy of their surveys was sacrificed, therefore, to their feelings of pride. So long as the land allotted was in excess of what the warrant called for, no complaint was likely to be made against them by the purchaser. Land was a drug in the New World then and a few hundred acres more or less counted for but little. But in time, owing no doubt in part to this slipshod method; questions arose and differences were engendered amongst neighbours, as to their boundaries. Eventually titles were quieted and adjusted as the justice of each particular case demanded, by the Board of Property of the Province of Pennsylvania.

This body was created by William Penn on 11th mo. 21st, 1686. who commissioned William Markham, Thomas Ellis and John Goodson, or any two of them, to "grant warrants and Survey Land, and Pass Patents for the Lands so surveyed." (*Vide Penna. Archives, 2 Ser., Vol. 19.*) The *personel* of this Commission changed from time to time, but for many years they exercised the powers granted to them by the Proprietor, and their Minute Books show that Thomas Stackhouse was concerned in many real estate transactions in Bucks County in the early days of the

Province. These transactions will now be detailed.

On April 21-22, 1682, the Proprietary conveyed to Thomas Crossdale, of New Hay, Yorkshire, Yeoman, 1,000 acres of which 500 acres were laid out in County Bucks. I think this tract was located about a mile further up Neshaminy Creek from Thomas Stackhouse's first tract. On 6th mo. 23rd, 1698, Thomas Crossdale's two sons, William and John, conveyed the proportion of Liberty Land belonging to this purchase to Nicholas Walne, who verbally had bargained for it many years before. The actual survey showed that this 500 acre tract really contained 670 goodly acres. 250 acres "thereof was sold to Tho. Stackhouse now in the Tenure of Robert Heaton", say the Minutes, (*2 Pa. Arc. Vol. 19, p. 256.*) but whether the land or Thomas were in Robert's Tenure does not appears to be very clear. It was probably the land, however; for a further study of the title to this tract show that after the Crossdales sold it to Thomas Stackhouse the latter sold it to Nicholas Waln, who in turn conveyed it to Robert Heaton, (*ib. p. 429.*) on 8. 2. 1702.

By deed dated 8. 17. 1690, Joseph Growden conveyed to Thomas Stackhouse, 90 acres of land, adjoining Jeremiah Langhorn's land. This appears to have been part of two tracts, one granted 1. 6. 1696. by Edward Evans to Joseph Growden, and the other granted 1. 6. 1698-9 to Joseph

Growden by Rowland Ellis, Griffeth Owen, John Humphrey and David Lloyd, attorneys for Richard Davies.

Jermiah Langhorn and Sarah Biles (wife of William Biles Jr.)—children of Thomas Langhorn, with Sarah's husband, conveyed on 8. 18. 1699 to Thomas Stackhouse 100 acres of land. This was part of an 860 acre tract and I think was located on Neshaminy Creek about two miles from where Thomas Stackhouse first settled. It was purchased by Thomas Langhorn, from Francis Dove, William Wiggans and Edward Sumwayes, (or Samway), the Deed for the same bearing date 7. 5-6. 1687,

James Claypoole and Robert Turner, Commissioners, by a Patent, dated 12. 11. 1684, confirmed to Ralph Ward, 123 acres of land on the Neshamineh Creek, adjoining land of Philip Alford, and also adjoining the last mentioned tract, which was laid out 6. 21. 1682, by a Warrant from William Markham, dated 2. 7. 1682.

The Commissioners also by their Patent, dated 10. 1. 1684, confirmed unto Philip Alford, 123 acres adjoining the forgoing, which were laid out 6. 14. 1682, by virtue of a Warrant from William Markham, dated the seventh of the same month. These two parcells, it was estimated contained 246 acres, of which Alford conveyed one moiety to Ward. I imagine it was not a direct conveyance by Alford to Ward, but was done through the medium of a third party, as a little

further on we find that Philip Alford, by Deed dated 7. 6. 1687 conveyed to Thomas Jenner, of Philadelphia, Carpenter, all his title to the said 123 acres; after which, Ralph Ward and Thomas Jenner, being seized of there two tracts, by a joint Deed, dated 3. 17. 1694 granted the whole tract of 246 acres to Thomas Stackhouse, who afterward conveyed a fourth of the whole tract, (being that portion next to the Creek,) to Ezra Croasdale.

The Proprietary sold to John Town 157 acres, which apparently adjoined lands of Alford, Ward Dove and Walne. (*For all these various Tracts of Land the reader had better himself study Holme's Map of Bucks Co.*) Nicholas Waln declared that he had paid £5. in Town's behalf in part, and Ezra Crosdale paid the remainder. A Warrant was then granted to John Town for the same, 12. 21. 1683, by which it appears the land adjoined the tract of Alford above mentioned. Town sold this land to Thomas Stackhouse and Ezra Crosdale, but owing to Town's inability to make a title at that time, no Deed passed. Apparently, however, Town did make a Deed dated 4. 10. 1702.

Being thus seized of all of the above tracts, commencing with the tract originally conveyed to Thomas Crossdale by the Proprietary on April 21-22, 1682, and comprising, so the record states, 453 acres, Thomas Stackhouse requests a resurvey of this 453 acres, in order to obtain a Patent. Thomas evidently saw that the title to

a great part of this land was in rather bad shape and that by a new Patent he would be better protected in the future. (*Vide Minute Book G, 2 Pa. Arc. Vol. 19, p. 310.*) The application was granted, with the rider attached to it, "Stackhouse to pay for the overplus, &c." Shortly thereafter the Board signed the Warrant of Resurvey to Thomas Stackhouse. (*Vide Ibid., p. 312.*)

Again we find that "Tho: Stackhouse holds 500 acres in right of Joseph Growden, Esquire into A. David Evans in Radnor holds 200 Acres in right of John ap John & J. Wynn". The sentence is delightfully involved! (*Vide Minute Book K. 3 Pa. Arc Vol. 1, p. 31.*)

In a list of "Old Rights", the following appears:

"Thos. Stackhouse, Land returned 5. 8. 1702, 512 acres (which contained his residence).

"Thos Stackhouse, Date of Warrant, 3. 19. 1702." (*Vide Ibid, Vol. 3, pp, et seq.*)

By his Will, (which will be set fourth in full at the close of this sketch,) we find that he had also been engaged in the purchase of a number of lots in Bristol, Co. Bucks, Penna.

### AS A PUBLIC MAN.

Thomas Stackhouse was actively interested for sometime in the affairs of the youthful Colony. It is quite difficult at this late date, with the scant records at our command, either to estimate his services, or to ascertain his opinions on

the questions which vexed the Colony during his time. By a short resum'e, however, of the troubles of the period immediately preceding his election to the Provincial Assembly, and a study of the persons who were his fellow members and associates, we may be able to throw some light on the matter.

In 1685, the Proprietor appointed Nicholas Moore, from London, a lawyer and the President of the Company of Free Trades, (but not a Democrat), and a member also of the Provincial Assembly of Pennsylvania, to the office of Chief Justice. The Assembly was exceedingly jealous of its power, and resented any attempt real or imagined to lessen them, and passed a number of laws about this time without publishing them, as required by the Constitution. Moore by opposing some of their measures incurred their enmity and they at once proceeded to impeach him. He escaped conviction, however, through some technical defect in the form of the proceeding. They expelled him, however, from the Assembly and he was removed from all places of trust which he occupied by the Council. The Assembly's wrath extended even to one Patrick Robinson. Clerk of the Provincial Court, who had refused to produce before the august body of legislators the minutes of that Court. Neither Moore nor Robinson were members of the Society of Friends, and the enmity of the Assembly may be due in some part to

this and their natural suspicions of men who were of a different faith. There were other troubles and matters of difference about this time also.

In the year 1686 Penn changed the form of the Executive to a Board composed of five Commissioners, any three of whom were empowered to act. These five Commissioners were Thomas Lloyd, Nicholas Moore,—who, at least, did not forfeit the trust of the Proprietor—James Claypoole, Robert Turner, and John Eckley.

1688. This year the session of the Assembly was also marked by a want of unanimity. Owing to these troubles Penn changed his Plural Executive into a single Deputy, his choice falling upon a Captain John Blackwell. Blackwell was not a Friend and I believe was formerly an officer in Cromwell's army.

In 1689 Governor Blackwell met the Assembly but through some misunderstanding between him and some of the Council the public affairs were not managed harmoniously and but little was accomplished during his short administration. One of the troubles during part of the period covered by this account seems to have been that the Assembly passed laws without regard to their constitutionality or their agreement with the laws in force in England. Of course they did not meet with the approval of the Proprietors (or Crown as the case may be) and their repeal was ordered (or recommended



as the case may be).

In 1690 another change took place in the Executive Government, the Council electing Thomas Lloyd, their President and in accordance with the Constitution he assumed Executive functions. Six of the members of the Council, representing the Lower Counties, formed themselves into a Rump Council and in 1691 appointed Judges for these Counties and enacted ordinances. This caused the publication of a Proclamation by the President of the Council of Pennsylvania, declaring the acts of the members of the Rump Council illegal. After considerable trouble, Penn confirmed the appointment by the Council of the three Upper Counties of Lloyd as their governor, and confirmed William Markham, as Governor of the Lower Counties, he having been one of the seceders. These dissensions furnished the Crown with a pretext for annexing the Colonies to the Government of New York in 1693.

Governor Fletcher, of New York, was therefore appointed Crown Governor of Penn's Colonies as well, but as many of the Magistrates, who were Friends, refused to accept their Commissions from him, a way to new dissensions was speedily opened. At the very beginning of Fletcher's assuming the reins of Government there was trouble between him and the Assembly, the latter, it is said, acting in violation of their fundamental laws, and the former acting in a arbitrary manner.

In 1694 Fletcher departed to New York and appointed William Markham Lieutenant Governor, Fletcher impressed upon the Assembly the necessity for making further appropriations for the public defence. This, after a great deal of wrangling the Assembly refused to do, their religious principles, as a whole being opposed to warfare.

In the month of August 1694, the Government having been restored to Penn appointed William Markham Lieutenant Governor.

In 1695 the Assembly and Markham were not on good terms.

In 1699 Penn himself arrived in the Province, but was not met with the cordiality which he had encountered on the occasion of his first visit.

In 1700 Penn called an extra session to pass on the new charter which he had in view. It was not carried through at this time, however.

In 1701 Penn again convened the Assembly on the 16th of September. He wanted the matter of the new charter settled and called their attention again to the King's demand for money. The House replied to his message with grateful thanks, but declined to make the war contribution. The Constitution however, was finally adopted.

1702, the Governor attempted to affect a union between the Provinces and the territories, but was unsuccessful.

In 1706 John Evans was the Governor, having been recommended by Secretary Logan. Evans attached himself to the interests of the Lower Counties, and of course this partisan spirit at once engendered trouble. He attempted several arbitrary measures and affected his purpose, but was opposed by Richard Hill and others.

In 1707 we find that both the Governor and his Secretary Logan were on bad terms with the Assembly and legislation was almost paralyzed.

In 1709 Governor Evans was removed and Charles Gookin appointed Secretary. Gookin arrived when the Assembly was in session. This body at once stirred up old troubles by presenting him with a list of grievances which they had against Governor Evans and demanded immediate satisfaction. Gookin endeavored to show them that he had had nothing whatever to do with his predecessor's acts, and that he had no right to sit in judgement on him. Secretary Logan seems to have possessed as much influence with Gookin as he formerly had with Evans, and we find Lloyd almost always at the head of the Assembly. Owing to the financial troubles of William Penn, who had to meet a bill for 6,600 sterling, he mortgaged the Province to raise the funds. The knowledge of his condition seems to have induced the Assembly to extort more privileges from him and to attempt to limit

his prerogatives. On the other hand his financial straits caused him to raise all the Revenues he possible could from the Province and increase them as much as possible. The conduct of the Assembly contributed not a little to disgust him with the whole undertaking. Then come more troubles over voting war funds. Finally Penn wrote a touching letter to the Assembly, in which he detailed their injustice and taxed them with ingratitude, and upheld the part of Secretary Logan, against whom the Assembly were opposed.

On the 1st of October, 1710, an election took place, which resulted in an entirely new set of men being returned to the Assembly, not one of the old members being re-elected. This was doubtless caused by Penn's letter and a revulsion in feeling on the part of the Colonists. Harmony and good feeling between the Governor and the Assembly prevailed during this year. (*For a succinct account of these troubles see "History of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania", by Wm. H. Egle, M.D.*)

And now let us see who composed the old Assembly, so far as it relates to Bucks County, and who the new.

The members of the Assembly who Represented Bucks County in 1709 were,

Joshua Hoopes;  
Samuel Darke;  
Robert Heaton, Jr ;  
Thomas Hilborn;

Samuel Beaks;  
Esra Croasdale;  
Henry Paxson;  
Thomas Harding.

The election which took place on October 1, 1710 resulted in the return of an entirely new set of representatives, not one of the old ones being returned to the Assembly. They were

Able Janney;  
Stoffel Vansant;  
Thomas Stevenson;  
Jeremiah Langhorne;

John Clarke;  
John Hough;  
Samuel Baker;  
William Biles.

This Assembly seemed to get along with the Executive better than the old one did. The election in October 1711, resulted in some further changes, and we find the following chosen to represent Bucks Co.

Jermiah Langhorne;  
William Biles;  
Thomas Stackhouse;  
Robert Heaton, Jr.;

Thomas Stevenson;  
Samuel Burges, Jr.;  
Joshua Hoopes;  
Samuel Baker.

Thus we see Abel Jenney, John Clark, Stoffel Vansant and John Hough, members of the Assembly in 1710-11, and what might be called "The Reform Assembly", were not returned. The other four, however, were returned. Both Jermiah Langhorne and William Biles had been members at various times of Assemblies which had been on bad terms with the Executives of their periods. We notice, too, that Thomas Stackhouse, Joshua Hoopes, Robert Heaton, Jr. and Thomas Stevenson come in at this election. Stevenson and Stackhouse are now members, Robert Heaton, Jr., Thomas Stackhouse's

brother-in-law, was one of the old Assembly's members, in fact belonged to several of them. Burgess was also a new member. My own feeling about the matter is that Thomas Stackhouse was a supporter of the principles of the Legislatures of 1709 and for a long time prior thereto; that he was one who was jealous of the prerogatives of the representatives of the people, resented the infringement of their rights, and stood firmly on the principles and testimonies of Friends against war. In 1712 an agreement was prepared for the sale of the Government of the Province by the Proprietary to Queen Anne: "for though a temporary alternation was made the last year in the Assembly's conduct, respecting him, yet it appears in this manner, he thought it more prudent to extract himself from the debt and difficulties, in which the province had to much involved him." (*Proud's History of Penna., Vol. 11. pp. 57-58, Ed. of 1794.*) The execution of this agreement, as we know, was prevented by the failure of Penn's mental faculties. Some of the Acts passed by the Assembly of 1711-12 we find to be as follows, altho it is not probable they all received Executive approval: (*Vide Col. Recs. Vol. II.*)

An Act for Establishing the Lower ferry on the River Schuylkill.

An Act for Establishing and Regulating of ferries over the Delaware and Neshaminy Creeks, —a measure which we can readily imagine Thomas Stackhouse approved.

An act for the further securing the administration of the Government.

An Act for the Raising Money on the Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia for the Public use and Benefit thereof.

An Act for the better ascertaining the Publick Debts and collecting the arrears of County Levies.

An Act to prevent the Importation of Negroes and Indians into this Province. We shall probably see some of the workings of this Act when we come to speak of James Heaton hereafter.

An Act concerning the Register Generall's Office.

An Act for confirming Patents and Grants.

An Act for the Better Government of the City of Philadelphia. How the up-State members of Assembly must have delighted in running City affairs! I imagine they felt the same satisfaction as the country Republicans of New York State today feel in "bossing" the City of New York.

An Act for Impowering Religious Societies to Buy, hold and Enjoy Lands, Tenements and hereditaments.

A Supplementary act to a Law about the manner of Giving Evidence.

A Supplementary act to an act Entitled an Impost act laying a Duty on Negroes, Rum, Wine, Spirits, Cyder, vessels, &c., &c.

In October 1712, we find another shake up in the composition of the members from Bucks. They were

Joseph Kirkbride;  
Thomas Watson;  
Samuel Burges (sick)  
John Snowden;

John Sotcher;  
Thomas Stevenson;  
Stoffel Vansant;  
John Frost;

John Swift; (vice Burges sick)

So Thos. Stackhouse was not returned for 1712.

Gov. Gookin, anticipating that the agreement we have before referred to would go into affect, and that the Government would be transferred to the Crown, in his speech to the Assembly on 15 October 1712, told them he did not expect re-appointment as Governor under the Crown, and requested them to have ready on call the sum granted by the preceeding Assembly, that the debts incurred on account of the Indian Treaties might be discharged. He also recommended them to consider the expense of his return. The Assembly replied that at that season it was inconvenient to attend in Assembly; that they intended to adjourn, but that they would appoint a committee to inspect the public accounts in the interim and prepare matters for the better dispatch of business at their next meeting, &c. The Governor signified his approbation of their proposed adjournment, and the Assembly accordingly adjourned.

In 1713 we find Thomas Stackhouse returned again amongst others from Bucks.



John Swift  
 Thomas Stevenson  
 Thomas Watson, Jr  
 Thomas Stackhouse

Jeremiah Langhorne  
 William Steckdill  
 Joseph Growden  
 Joseph Kirkbride

Joseph Growden was the Speaker of this Assembly.

In 1714 Bucks was represented by

Joseph Kirkbride  
 Stoffel Vasant  
 Robert Harvey  
 William Stockdill

Thomas Stevenson  
 Everard Bolton  
 John Swift  
 William Paxson

David Lloyd was chosen Speaker. Nothing seems to have been done by this Assembly, and they adjourned, without the Governor's consent, until the latter part of 1715. On April 16, 1715, however, the Governor issued a writ summoning the Assembly to meet on May 2, 1713, at Philadelphia. Again there were differences manifested between the Governor and the Assembly: the former condemning for not providing for the exigencies of the Government, and the latter retorting that the Governor had not passed the bills as prepared by them. However, they finally succeeded in preparing a number of bills which met with Executive approval.

In the summer of 1715 a complaint was made in the House of tumults in Philadelphia, under the pretence of supporting a Francis Philips, who had been indicted for high crimes and misdemeanours. The Assembly addressed Gov. Gookin on the subject on June 10, 1715, stating they were in hopes that the courts might have

been a means to put a stop to those tumults : that they had been informed that an attempt was being made to prevail with the Governor "that there is no power to bring to trial a certain clergyman, who is charged by indictment, at the King's suit for committing fornication, against the King's peace, and the law of this province." They insisted that trials of this nature should be in the Quarter Sessions, and desired the Governor to uphold the Magistrates and suppress the tumult. They also asked that he cause the accused to be speedily tried. The Governor replied that he had endeavoured to quell the tumults and stated that the courts were open and the administration of justice restored.

In 1715 Bucks was represented in the Assembly by

Joseph Growden  
Johu Sotcher  
Jeremiah Langhorne  
John Frost

John Swift  
Thomas Yardley  
Thomas Stackhouse  
Thomas Harding

Joseph Growden was again chosen Speaker of the Assembly in 1715. The Governor in the same month informed them of his intention to return home, Queen Anne having died the year before, this Assembly sent an address to King George on his accession to the Throne. Two of the Bills passed by this Assembly in October of 1715 was one "Intituled an act for enlargeing the time for putting in Execution an act past at ye last session of the Assembly, "&c., and "An act

for reviving of Process in ye County of Chester.”  
(*Vidi Col. Rec. Vol. II.*)

In the year 1716, October, Richard Hill was chosen Speaker. Thomas Stackhouse was elected to this Assembly, but refused to serve and Samuel Beaks was selected in his place. (*Vide 3, Penna. Arc. Vol. IX.*)

Our interest, so far as this sketch goes, now cease in the actions of the Provincial Assembly, its wrangles being no longer participated in by the Hon. Thomas Stackhouse, of his associates in the Assembly let us say a few words.

John Swift represented Bucks in the Assembly from 1679 to 1719 and Philadelphia from 1721 to 1730. He married Elizabeth, successively widow of Patrick Robinson—a prominent merchant and lawyer of the time, and who held several high offices in the Colony—and of Griffith Jones, who died October, 1712.

Joseph Growden, with whom Thomas Stackhouse was associated and whose will he witnessed, was a very prominent man. He was a son of Laurence Growden; a Friend and one of the most influential settlers of Bensalem Township. He built a beautiful residence on the northern part of his manor in Bensalem, near the Neshaminy and opposite to Hulmeville, which he named Trebose, after his old home in Cornwall. He died in 1730, having held a number of prominent offices.

Jeremiah Langhorne was a son of Thomas and Grace Langhorne. His father, Thomas, was a prominent Friend. He was a sufferer for his principles and in 1668 while undergoing imprisonment, wrote "The Captive's Complaint, or the Prisoner's Plea against the Burdensom and Contentious Title of Tithes." In conjunction with Thomas Careton he also wrote "A Testimony concerning Francis Howgill," in verse, which will be found in Howgill's works, published in 1676. (*Smith's Cat. of Friends' Books*) Thomas Langhorne brought a certificate from Friends Quarterly Meeting, at Kendal, Westmoreland, dated 5th mo. 4th, 1684 and came with his wife and children, Jeremiah and Grace to Middletown Meeting. Thomas was a member of the Provincial Assembly, a preacher among Friends and a Justice of the Peace. He died 8th mo. 6th, 1687. Sarah Langhorne married William Biles, Jr., the eldest son of William Biles, Sr., who settled in Falls Township, 1679. Jeremiah Langhorne was returned to the General Assembly from Bucks in 1700, 1702, to 1705 inclusive 1710 and from 1713 to 1741 inclusive, when he resigned. He was Clerk of the Court and Register of County Bucks in 1701; Deputy Master of the Rolls from 1702 to 1739; Justice 1715; Speaker of the Assembly 1721 to 1733 and a Justice of the Supreme Court from 1726 until his death. In the year 1729 he was appointed one of the Trustees of the General Loan

Office of the Province. He also held other offices and was one of the shining lights in the infant Colony. (*Vida Penna. Arcs. generally*)

Joseph Kirkbride ran away from his master and came to Pennsylvania in 1681. He was first employed at Pennsbury, but subsequently removed to West Jersey. In 1699 he returned to England, and came back to America in 1701. While in England it is said he found his old master and paid him for the services which he had deprived him of seventeen years before. He married 1st mo. 13th, 1688 at Middletown Meeting, Phoebe, daughter of Randall and Alice Blackshaw, of County Bucks. She died 7th mo. 29th, 1701, having given birth to six children, and Kirkbride married again, Sarah, daughter of Mahlon and Rebecca Stacy, of Burlington County, N. J., on 10th mo. 17th, 1702 at Falls Meeting. On 11th mo. 17th, 1704, he embarked his matrimonial craft for the third and last time and married Mary Yardley, of Makefield Township, widow of Enoch Yardley, and a daughter of Robert Fletcher. He had by her seven children. One daughter, Sarah, married Israel Pemerton, a grandson of Phineas and Phoebe, and another daughter, Jane, married Samuel Smith the historian of New Jersey. Joseph Kirkbride was a son of Matthew and Maudlin, of the Parish of Kirkbride, County Cumberland, was born 7th mo. 29th, 1662 and settled in Falls Township,

where, for a time it is said he followed his trade of carpenter.

Joshua Hoopes came from Cleveland, Yorkshire, in 9th mo. 1683, with his wife Isabella and children, and settled at Falls. His descendants will be found largely in County Chester, Penna.

John Sotcher was a servant and friend of the Proprietor and rose to be a man of some distinction. In 1701 he married Mary Lofty, by whom he had four children, Hannah, married Joseph Kirkbride, 1720; Mary, married Mahlon Kirkbride, 1724; Ann, married Mark Watson, 1728; and Robert, married out of meeting in 1731.

Thomas Stevenson was likewise associated with Thomas Stackhouse in the Assembly. He was a descendant of Thomas Stevenson, born 1615, and who came from London to New York. His father, the son of the first Thomas, also a Thomas died at Newtown, L. I., 2nd mo. 6th, 1725, leaving a number of issue by his two wives of whom Thomas, to whom we now refer, was the eldest son by his first wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Lawrence. He was born circa 1674 and married Sarah Pennington, widow of Edward and eldest daughter of Gov. Samuel Jennings, of West Jersey. He was elected member of the Assembly in 1710 and served continuously until his death in 1719. He held numerous other offices. One of his sons, Edward, in 1745 married Grace; daughter of John Stack-

house, the brother of Thomas. (*Vide "Jerseyman" account of Stevenson Family by Dr. Stevenson.*)

On 28 March 1704, we find Thomas Stackhouse was one of the four Collectors of Money granted Proprietary, for County Bucks. He seems to have failed in discharging his duty with satisfactory results to the higher powers; for we find that at a meeting of the Provincial Council, held at Philadelphia 1st mo. 22nd, 1703 4, James Logan, Receiver General of the Proprietary, complained that the Collectors of the £2000. granted to the Proprietor, had, "notwithstanding all the pressing Instances that had from time to time been used to them, proved so remiss in Discharging their Duty therein, that a great part of it remained yet uncollected." He therefore asked the Board to oblige them to account. At their next meeting the Board agreed to take cognizance thereof. (*Vide Penna. Col. Recs., Vol. II, p. 122 Also 2 Pa. Arc. Vol. IX.*)

Again on March 28th, 1704, James Logan renewed his application, and the Board thereupon ordered, amongst others, Thomas Stackhouse and his four fellow Collectors for Bucks, viz., Edward Mayos, Claus Johnson and William Biles, to attend the Board and there answer for their neglect in collecting the said tax. (*Vide Ib.*)

Claus Johnson was a Swede. His wife was Walburg, daughter of Mathias Bancson. They had John, Lawrence, Derick, Gertrude and Barbara and possibly others. Claus settled on

“Nishemeni Creek”, as the records of Gloria Dei call it. He died in December, 1723, aged circa 65 it is supposed.

And in passing we stop a moment to again call attention to a rather singular fact. We have noticed that Thomas had real estate transactions with one Zebulon Heston, and that after Zebulon had died, Thomas eventually made the widow his third wife.

On April 12th, 1704, in accordance with the summons of the Board, all the delinquent Collectors referred to attended the Council, except William Biles, who pleaded sickness and was therefore absent. Their accounts, however, were found to be not regularly drawn and could not be given in, and in explanation of their neglect they stated that while they had not been wanting in their endeavours, many difficulties arose which obstructed their effectual prosecution. It was finally asked them whether they would incur the fine of £5. each, as provided by law, or proceed with the full discharge of their duties? That seems to have settled it; it was an irresistable *argumentum ad hominem*, an appeal to the privy purse, and all agreed that they would proceed with the full discharge of their duties and requested that they might have their orders renewed and reinforced. (*Vide Pa. Col. Recs.. Vol. II, p. 458.*)

At a meeting of the Provincial Council held at Philadelphia on April 3, 1706, (*Vide Pa. Col.*



*Recs., vol. II, p. 238.*) Henricus Vandike, of Bucks County, had a petition presented, stating that he possessed a tract of land in Middletown, "through which a great publick road to the falls was carried for the whole length, but so obliquely that it thwarted his said Tract three several times, and thereby cutt it into several irregular pieces, which he is forced to fence in distinctly to his great Damage," &c. He prays that the said road, never having been regularly laid out, may be ordered to be laid out through his tract *de novo*, so as to run along one side of his land. "Ordered that Jeremiah Langhorn, Thomas Stackhouse, John Stackhouse, Thomas Beans, William Hayhurst and Robert Heaton, Junr., view the said Road and alter and lay it out as the Petitioner Requests, if it may be done without inconveniency and the place thro' which the Road is desired to pass, prove equally commodious to travellers, and that the Petr. cutt clear & make good the new Road at his own cost and charge." We rather imagine, from the last clause, that Henricus's Petition proved to possess some of the properties of the Boomerang.

We find on the records of Middletown M. M., as of 11th mo. 5th, 1687, that Jane Atkinson was ordered to pay Thomas Stackhouse younger 30 shillings which he claimed to be due him by Thomas Atkinson, her deceased husband.

Thomas Atkinson seems to have been a man of sterling character. He was born at Newby,

Yorkshire, and was the son of John Atkinson, of Thrush-Cross. He arrived in Bucks County and settled in Northampton Township, and died October 31, 1687. He was a preacher in the Society of Friends, a sufferer for the testimony he bore, a writer of several religious works and a member, in this country, of Falls Meeting. His widow Jane Atkinson, subsequently married William Biles, a merchant, and with whom Thomas Stackhouse we have seen was variously concerned. This William Biles was also, as we have seen, a member of the Assembly. He was a prominent and useful man in the early Colony, and was on a number of occasions a member of the Governour's Council. He was at one time Speaker of the Assembly. He was a preacher in Friends Society. (*Wide Davis' History of Bucks Co., Recs. of Falls M. M., Burlington M. M., Collection of Memorials, 1787, Smith's Catalog of Friends Books, and numerous other works as to Thomas Atkinson.*)

## HIS OTHER RELATIONS

Let us now consider his relations as a member of the Society of Friends and his business and social connections. It may be, in so doing, that we have confused him with his uncle, Thomas Stackhouse, Sr., as the old records are not always explicit as to which of the two they refer.

It is uncertain whether he united with Friends before he came to America, or after his arrival here. No mention is made of him on the minutes of Bolland Monthly Meeting, Yorkshire. But, be that as it may, we do know that in early life he was a member of the Middletown Monthly Meeting, County Bucks, Pennsylvania. His interest in this Meeting was doubtless deep, because it was built by him in 1690, at a cost of £26. 19s. 5d, and £10; additional for a stable. One light of glass was put in each lower window in 1698; muslin and oiled paper being probably used in the others. This meeting house, next to that built at Falls in the same County, was the oldest in the County. (*Vide Davis' History of Bucks Co.*)

Taking up this part of our work, chronologically, we find that

On 6th mo. 13th, 1684, Thomas Stackhouse witnessed the marriage of Henry Paxson, of Neshamina, to Margerie Plumly, of the same place at the house of Robert Hall. (*Mrg. Records of Bucks Co.*) Henry Paxson was of Bycot house, in the Parish of Stow, Oxon. He embarked with his wife, a son and daughter, and a brother; a of whom, save his daughter, Elizabeth, died on the passage. Henry Paxson settled in Middletown Township.

7th mo. 27th, 1688, he was married to Grace, daughter of Robert and Alice Heaton, at Middletown Meeting. His marriage was witnessed

by Ezra Croasdill, Shadrach Walley, James Radcliffe, William Hayhurst and fifteen others. (*Bucks Co. Mtd. Recs. Book A, p. 13*) Of these witnesses probably the most prominent was Ezra Croasdill. Croasdale, Croasdall, Crossdell, Croasdel, Croasdill, Crossdill, Crossdell, Crossdel, Crosdale, Crosdell—these are some of the ways in which he spelt his name, (or others spelt it for him,) and if the words admitted of any other orthographical forms, we do not doubt that they were in vogue as well.

Thomas Croasdale was at one time a resident of New Hay, Yorkshire, a farmhouse in the township and parish of Drax West Riding. His marriage is recorded by the Lancaster Monthly Meeting as of 3.1.1664, to Agnes Hathernthwaite, of Wyersidd. By deed April 21—22, 1682, he received a grant of 100 acres of land. 500 acres of this grant was laid on the Neshaminy, possibly not far from the present villiage of Langhorne. This Ezra Croasdale, was probably a near relative of Thomas. Beside him there was a Willian Croasdale, who married Grace Harding and Deliverance——; and a Jeremiah Croasdale, who married Grace Heaton, the niece of Thomas Stackhouse's first wife. Of the other witnesses, James and Mary Radcliffe were early settlers in Middetown Township James being a landowner in Wrightstown in 1684.

1.7. 1688 Thoms Stackhouse witnessed the marriage of William Plumley, of Neshamina, to Elizabeth Thompson, of the same place, at the

house of Henry Paxson, of Neshamina. (*Bucks Co. Mtg. recs.*)

4.24.1690, he witnessed the marriage of William Rowles, of Southampton, to Dorothy Bond, of Neshamina Creek, at Neshamina Meeting. (*Bucks Co. Mtg. recs.*)

9.20.1690 Thomas Stackhouse signs as a witness to the marriage of Mary Croasdale, daughter of Thomas and Alice, to William Smith at Wrightstown Meeting. William Smith came from Yorkshire to Pennsylvania, when a young man and unmarried, in the year 1684 and settled an Wrightstown. The hill which he concluded to cultivate was high and bleak and from its exposed condition very windy. It was covered with scrub-oak bushes on which leaves hung all winter and was called by the aborigines "Windy Bush."

Amongst early Friends (many of whom were slaveholders) there appears to have been some race prejudice, as appears by the following: extract: "About this time (1700) Robert Heaton and Thomas Stackhouse were appointed by the meeting to fence off part of the graveyard to bury Negroes in." (*Davis' Hist. of Bucks Co.*)

12.1.1710 Thomas Stackhouse applied for a certificate in order to marry with Ann Mayos, belonging to Falls Meeting and on 1.1. 1711 he obtained certificate and married here. (*Recs. of Falls Mtg.*)

10.26.1716 we find him witnessing the marriage of Eleazer Twining, of Newton, son of Stephen to Jane Naylor, daughter of John, of Southampton.

John Naylor, the father of the bride married Jane Cutler on 5. 11. 1685, at the house of James Dilworth and died about 1735. His daughter Jane married, secondly, Benjamin Scott, on 4. 2. 1725.

The next mention the records make of him is to be found in the will of his father-in-law, Robert Heaton, proved July 16, 1717. (*Wills of Bucks Co. Will Book I, p,33.*)

The Will of John Penquite, of the Town of Bristol, dated 2. 14. 1714; proved January 11, 1719 is also witnessed by Thomas Stackhouse. (*Will Book. 1. p. 42*)

He applied for certificate of marriage with Dorothy Heston of Wrightstown on 6 mo 1725 and obtained it in the 7th month of the same year. (*Bucks Co. Mtg. Recs.*)

On 4. 22. 1726 we find Thomas and his third wife, Dorothy, witnessing the marriage of Dorothy's son by her first husband, Zebulon Heston, near Wrightstown, to Elizabeth Buckman, of Newton; which took place in Wrightstown Meeting. (*Bucks Co. Mtg. Recs.*)

7. 12. 1728, Isaac Hutchinson, son of John, late of Hopewell Township, County Burlington, N. J. was married to Mary, daughter of Richard late of Burlington, deceased, at the Burlington Meeting House. Among the witnesses we find Dorothy and Thomas Stackhouse. (*Recs. of Burlington Mtg.*)

Thomas Stackhouse witnessed the will of John

Teeton, of Middletown, Miller, dated Feb. 24 1730, proved March 7, 1730. (*Will Book 1, p. 45*)

With his brother John Stackhouse he witnessed the will of Joseph Growden, of Trevoze, dated July 25, 1730, probated Dec. 28, 1730. (*Will Book 1, p. 141.*)

He also witnessed the will of Stephen Sands, of County of Bucks, dated 11. 25. 1730, proved Feb. 15, 1732-3. (*Will Book 1, p. 197.*)

In the will of Jonathan Woolston, of Middletown, dated 20 Sept. 1741, proved 7 Oct. 1741, we find mention made of the Mill Pond of Thomas Stackhouse. (*Will Book 2, p. 12.*)

12. 22. 1710. "At a Quarterly meeting held at Middletown ye 22nd day of ye 12th mo. 1710. This meeting having under consideration the building of a meeting house at Bristol, it is concluded that there be a good substantial house built, either of brick or stone ; and the Friends appointed to take the dimensions and for the covenants (convenienest) place, Joseph Kirkbride, Joshua Houps, John Satcher, Thomas Stevenson, Thomas Stackhouse and Adam Harker, together with such of Bristol Friends they think fit, who are likewise to compute the charge as near as may be, and to appoint who they think fit to manage the work and give an account of their proceeding to the next meeting. (*Extract from the Minutes.*)

It was customary for cattle owners in the early days to register the marks of their cattle in

Bucks County and the name of both Thomas Stackhouse and that of his uncle appear upon this register, together with their marks. (*Vide Davis' Hist. of Bucks Co.*)

The following is a copy of his Last Will and Testament. (*Proved 14 July 1744; reg. at Doylestown, in the Office of the Register of Wills, in Will Book No. 2, p. 37, &c.*)

Thomas Stackhouse of Middletown in the Co. of Bucks in the Province of Penna. being weak of body but of a Sound mind & Good memory calling to my Remembrance the uncertainty of this Transitory Life Do make this my last Will and Testament Touching the disposal of what Temporal Estate I have hereby Revoking and Annulling all other and former will or wills whatsoever heretofore by me made & this only to be taken for my last Will and Testament and no other.

First. Will my Body to be decently Buryed according to the Discretion of my Executors hereafter named.

Secondly. I do will that my Just Debts & funeral charges be duly paid and discharged.

Thirdly, I give and bequeath unto my dear and well beloved wife Dorothy Stackhouse my best bed and the furniture thereunto belonging and my Servant Girl called Jane also the best pair of chest of Drawers three chairs three pewter Dishes & six pewter plates all which shall be at her choice also and-Iron & Tongs belonging to the fire place in the Iner room two tables in the said room a large chest she brough with her a brass Kettle and an Iron pot to be at her choice & a little bell mettle pot & an Iron Skillet a little walnut box a trunk in the aforesaid chest two cows and a horse or mare the said horse or mare & two cows she shall have the choice of out of my stock and also the sum of one hundred pounds lawful money of America to be paid her at the expiration of one year after



my decease all which Legacees herein above bequeathed to my said wife I do give them to her her heirs and assigns forever As also a book of William Bayleys.

Fourthly I do give and bequeath unto my son Joseph Stackhouse his heirs & assigns a certain field of land to be taken off the Eastern end of my Plantation joyning to Wm. Paxson's land to be laid out as followeth to begin at the said Paxson's land & the Southline and run along as it is laid out Westward until it come at the Ditch of the meadow fence thence then to follow the said fence as it now stands to take in the little meadow and the field then along the Northward line of my land to Wm. Paxson's land aforesaid then by the said Paxson's land to the place of beginning supposed to be about one hundred acres (be it more or less) the which he shall possess and enjoy at the end of three years after my decease and not before As also I do give my said son Joseph his heirs and assigns all my land over the creek beyond the Mill supposed to be about sixty acres (be it more or less) the which he now lives on out of which my son Joseph shall pay unto his son Caleb two pounds lawful money of America and also shall pay unto my son Benjamins son Benjamin the sum of ten pounds money aforesaid when they attain to twenty one years of age but if my said Grandson Caleb Dye before he come at age aforesaid his Legacy to be paid to his brother Joshua when he shall come of age and if my aforesaid Grand Son Benjamin Dye before he come at age his legacy to be paid to his sister Grace when she shall come at age.

Fifthly the remaining part of the Tract of land where I now live with the buidings and Improvements and all and singular the app I give and bequeath unto my son Isaac Stackhouse his heirs and assigns forever Excepting granting and hereby reserving unto my wife aforesaid the whole use benefit and privilege of the East end of the House chamber over it and cellar under it and three rows of Apple trees where she shall choose it Garden at the East end of the House and the garden opposite to it joyning to the Ditch and the Keeping two cows

and a horse or Mare both Winter and Somer and wood for fire during her natural life and free Egress & Regress to and from the same or any part thereof as occasion may require without any interruption from any person whatsoever If she remains unmarried But if she marry again after such Inter-marriage my Son Isaac aforesaid shall have and enjoy the whole to him his heirs and assigns And also I do will that my said son Isaac Stackhouse his heirs Exrs or admrs shall pay unto my wife aforesaid the sum of ten pounds lawful money aforesaid yearly every year during her natural life.

Sixthly all that my Tract of land Joyning on the Pidgeon Swamp I give and bequeath unto my son Robert Stackhouse and my son Thomas Stackhouse their heirs and assigns forever to be equally divided into two parts or shares and do will that my son Thomas have that part or half next adjoining to Richard Bidgoods land on which he is already settled and do will that my Executors hereinafter named do pay unto each of them the sum of five pounds at the expiration of two years after my decease. Also I do give unto my son Samuel Stackhouse the sum of ten pounds lawful money aforesaid to be paid at one year and a half after my decease.

Seventhly I do will my Exrs do pay unto my daughter Ann Plumly here heirs and assigns the sum of fifty pounds lawful money aforesaid and unto my daughter Sarah Cary fifty pounds money aforesaid to be paid at the end of two years after my decease also my will is that the above one hundred pounds given to my wife to be paid out of my personal estate.

Eightly I do give and bequeath unto my son Jacob Stackhouse his heirs and assigns forever my Lot at Bristol whereon the Brick House stands with all and singular the Buildings and Improvements thereon also my lot at Bristol lying between Thomas Marriett's four acre lot and the old mill Pond esteemed to be four acres also the sum of ten pounds lawful money aforesaid to be paid by my Exrs at one year after my decease.

Ninthly I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Ann Plumly her heirs & assigns my Lot of land lying between Thos. Marriott's and Giles Laurence Lots.

Tenthly I do give and bequeath unto my daughter Sarah Cary her heirs & assigns my lot in Bristol lying between Radcliff Street & the River Delaware near David Palmers.

Eleventhly I do give and bequeath unto my son Benjamin's son Benjamin and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten my Lot in Bristol joyning on Mill street between Samuel Carys lot and Cedar Street on the Banks of the Creek as also all that my Lot lying adjoyning on the lot of Abraham Dornemand where Abel Janney now liveth But if he the said Benjamin should dye Without such issue then I do give the said two Lots unto his sister Grace & her heirs begotten aforesaid.

Twelfth, I do give unto my son in law Euclydus Longshore the sum of five pounds lawful money aforesaid to be paid at the end of one year after my decease

Thirteenth the remaining part and residue of my estate after my debts and legacies aforesaid are paid I do give and bequeath unto my son Benjamin's two children namely Benjamin & Grace in such manner to be divided that the said Benjamin shall have two thirds thereof and the said Grace one third thereof to be paid them when they shall come at age.

Lastly I do make nominate and appoint my loving wife aforesaid my son Isaac aforesaid and my son in Law Euclydus Longshore to be my Executors to see this my Last Will and Testament performed.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal Dated the first day of the twelfth month (February) Anno Domini 1741-2.

Thomas Stackhouse. (Seal)

Sealed, pronounced and declared by the said Thomas to be his Last Will and Testament in the presence of—Note that the words (and my Servant Girl called Jane) were inserted before signing hereof.

Jeremiah Croasdale

James Thackery.

William Atkinson.

Codicil. I the within named Thomas do hereby codicil and confirm all my within and above written will and also Do here-

by give my Exrs above meotioned or the Survivors of them full power to make sale & deliver good conveyances or conveyance unto any land by me already sold and not by me conveyed as fully and effectually as I might do if I were personally present.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this first day of the twelfth month (February) one thousand seven hundred and forty one-1741-2.

Thomas Stackhouse. (Seal)

Witness James Thackery Wm. Atkinson.



JOHN STACKHOUSE married Elizabeth Pearson, daughter of Thomas and Grace (Veepon) Pearson, at Middletown Meeting, Bucks County, Penna., in 7th month, 1702.

### ISSUE

2 Thomas	b. 1. 29. 1706	
3 John	3. 11. 1708	d. 7. 23. 1743
4 Samuel		
5 Margaret	8. 6. 1714	5. 2. 1774
6 Samuel	10. 6. 1716	7. 20. 1742
7 James	1. 10. 1718	
8 Grace	7. 27. 1720	
9 Elizabeth		
10 Sarah	7. 21. 1726	

**T**H R E E men by the name of *Stackhouse* came from Yorkshire to Pennsylvania during the time of William Penn. They were Thomas Stackhouse, the uncle, and Thomas and John, his nephews. The uncle left no children, but from his nephews are descended nearly all of the name in Canada and the United States.

There are no facts to substantiate the degree of relationship between the two brothers Thomas and John Stackhouse. Tradition is all we have at present to depend upon in classing them as brothers and I think we are not at fault in doing so. The tradition of "two brothers having come from England to America and settled in Bucks County" is very prevalent among the most enlightened descendants of these two, and

exists alike in both branches.

The exact date of the arrival of John Stackhouse in America is uncertain; but he appears to have been here so early as 1685. He was a minister among Friends, as the following extract from the records of Middleton Monthly Meeting of Bucks County, Penna., under date of 1727, discloses:

John Stackhouse, at a by-past Monthly Meeting and again at this meeting, hath made application for a few lines by way of certificate to the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders.

John Smith mentions having heard him speak at a meeting in Philadelphia sometime during the year 1745-46. John Fothergill, another eminent Friend, also names him in his *Journal* under date of 12th mo. 23d, 1721, and states that he lodged at the house of J. Stackhouse, near Neshaminy.

The following extracts from the Pennsylvania Archives relate to him.

The Proprietary by Lease and Release dated 21st and 22nd April, 1682, granted to Nicholas Waln 1000 acres. 250 acres of this grant was situate on the Neshamineh Creek. Of this tract Nicholas Waln by Deed Poll dated 1st mo. 10th 1695 conveyed 200 acres to John Stackhouse, who obtained from the Proprietary a Warrant of Resurvey, dated 1st mo. 22nd 1700-1, which upon being executed said grant was found to contain 312 acres. Of this 307 acres 20 being allowed by law, there remained 87 acres to be paid for at 7 s. 6 d. an acre which he agreed to give and requested a Patent on the same which was granted. (*Minute Book G, Pa. Arc. 2 Ser., Vol. xix, p. 292.*)

A further account of this conveyance and the trouble growing thereout is given as follows:

The Prop'ry, by Deeds of Le. and Rel., dat. 3 and 4 July, '82, Granted to Jno. Scarborough, of London, Blacksmith 250 Acres, which by Warr't from Thomas Holme in '82, was laid out With 250 Of Nicholas Waln, on Nesham. Creek, In two Long Strips, which Proveing Inconvenient, were Cutt Off across and divided into two Parcells Endwise. Jno. Scarborow, son of the said John, by Virtue of a Power of Attorney, duely Proved, dat. 15th 8ber, '96, Conveyed to Adam Harker 110 acres, by Deed dat. 6th 1 mo., 1700-1 the remaind'r of the said 250 Acres, haveing before Sold to Henry Huddlestone 80 acres and Thomas Barnes 60 Acres. In Divid'g this Land Between Nicholas W. and Scarborow the Line was run unequally, he took into said Neshamin. above his Share and left Scarborow's deficient 22  $\frac{1}{2}$  Acres which Deficiency fell in the said Harker's Parcell. Jno. Stackhouse being now Owner of Nich. Waln's Land and said Harker being at difference, they Chose Arbitrators, J. Growdon, Wm. Paxon, Thomas Harding, Jer. Langhorne, Thomas Beans, and Jno. Cowgill, On Bonds of £40 Each to End the difference, and the said Arbitrat'rs Awarded that the said Stackhouse should give to the said Harker 30 acres Out of his Tract to make up this Deficiency, 23  $\frac{1}{2}$  thereof being duely Wanting And 5 more allowed for, the 2 On the 100, and said Harker requests that the Survey'r may execute the said Award and make returns thereof, that a Patent be Granted. (*Minute Book G, Pa. Arc. 2 Ser. Vol. xix, p. 430.*)

In the list of "Old Rights" is found the following:

- No. 13. Jno. Stackhouse. (Description of the Paper.) W't Res., 250 acres. Date of Warrant, 1.22.1700-1.
  - No. 24. Jno. Stackhouse. (Description of the Paper.) Ret. Res., 312 acres. Date of Return, 11.10.1701.
- (*Pa. Arc. 3 Ser. Vol. iii, pp. 94-5*)

He is also returned by the Tax Lists for 1702 as owning 312 acres in Middletown Township.

His name also appears as an owner of land bounding on lands of the London Land Company, in Bucks County.

As to his marriage we learn from the records that—

6m. 3. 1702. Jno Stackhouse of y<sup>e</sup> County of Books in y<sup>e</sup> Province of Pensalvania & Elizabeth Person of Burlington came before the Meeting & declared their Intentions of Marriage and desired y<sup>e</sup> consent of ffriends in their Undertakings it being y<sup>e</sup> first time of their prosedure.

7m. 1. 1702. John Stackhouse of Middleton in y<sup>e</sup> county of Bucks and Province of Pensalvania and Elizabeth Person of Burling. came before the meeting & declared their Intention of Marriage & desired y<sup>e</sup> consent of friends & friends finding nothing to object against their prosedings left them to their Liberty to Solemnize their Intentions where they shall see Meete.

While this marriage, as we know, took place, it was never recorded.

In 1703 he made a conveyance of certain lands to Joseph Ward and in 1715 to Thomas Stackhouse.

In 1716 we find him with Thomas Hillborne a trustee for Samuel Hillborne, son of Margaret, who was daughter-in-law of John Frost, of Newtown.

John Cutler, of Middletown, mentions in his Will as a neighbour John Stackhouse.

On 10th mo. 23d, 1719, at Middletown Meeting he witnessed the marriage of Henry Nelson, of Middletown Township, to Alice Wildman, of same Township.

With his brother Thomas he witnessed the



Will of Joseph Growden, of Trevose, dated 25th July, 1730; probated 28th Dec. 1730.

He witnessed the marriage of John White, of Middletown Township, to Esther Stapler of same Township, at Middletown Meeting, on 8th mo. 16th, 1735.

In the Will of Jonathan Woolston, of Middletown, dated 20th Sept. 1741; proved 7th Oct. of same year, is the following devise to testator's son, Samuel:

Lot where I live from Road to back wall of House where John Stackhouse lives with Smith Shop & Tools.

He witnessed the marriage of John Harding, of Southampton Township, to Jane Scott, Jr., of Benjamin and Jane, of same place, at Middletown Meeting, 10th mo. 24th, 1747.

On 10th mo. 26th, 1752, he witnessed that of Samuel Twining, of Newtown Township, to Mary Jenks, of Thomas and Mercy, of Middletown Township, at that Meeting.

He died 2d mo. 9th, 1757 and is buried at Middletown, Penna.

His Will, dated 12th mo. 23d, 1756, was proved 22d Feb. 1757. In it he is designated as *John Stackhouse, of Middletown Yeoman*, and names his daughters Sarah, Margaret, (wife of John Mitchell) Grace Stevenson, Elizabeth Tomlinson; sons Thomas, John and James; grandchildren Mary and Joseph Tomlinson, children of Elizabeth; Rachel, daughter of Thomas; Lucilla and Abel,

children of John, deceased. His son James was devised 30 acres of Plantation on the Neshaminy adjoining Hayhurst's. His executors named therein were his son-in-law, John Mitchell, and his friend, John Woolston, and it was witnessed by Euclidus Longshore, Isaac Stackhouse, and James Hayhurst.

His wife Elizabeth died 6th mo. 21st, 1743 and is also buried at Middletown, Penna.

And this is all that has come down to us concerning John Stackhouse and his wife Elizabeth.



William Penn sailed for Pennsylvania, in the Ship *Welcome*, of 300 tons, Captain Robert Greenway, about 1st September, 1682, accompanied by 100 passengers. They had a long and tedious voyage and their sufferings were aggravated by the small-pox breaking out on board; from which thirty died. The vessel entered the capes of Delaware the 24th of October and arrived before New Castle on the 27th. (*Davis' History of Bucks Co. p. 64.*)

Among these passengers was Thomas Stackhouse, who was accompanied by his wife Margery. This Thomas Stackhouse, (the uncle of Thomas and John,) was probably born at Stackhouse, Yorkshire, about 1635. It appears from the Monthly Meeting records that Thomas Stackhouse and Margery Heahurst, both of Bolland Meeting, "laid their intentions of marriage before Settle Monthly Meeting in second month 1682, and again in third month, when they were liberated to proceed therein." (*Recs. of Settle M. M.*) Having accomplished their marriage and having obtained a certificate from Settle Monthly Meeting, dated 4. 7. 1682 they embarked for America. The following is a copy of the Certificate from Settle Monthly Meeting:

"THESE ARE TO CERTIFIE all whom it may concern that it is manifested to us that a necessity is layed upon severall friends belonging [to] this Monthly Meeting to remove into pensilvania & particularly our dear friend

Cuthbert Hayhurst (his wife and family) who has been and is a labourer in the truth for whose wellfare and prosperity we are unanimously concerned and also our friends Thomas Wrigglesworth and Alice his wife; Thomas Walmsley, Elizabeth, his wife; Thomas Croasdale, Agness, his wife & six children; Thomas Stackhouse & his wife, Nicholas Waln, his wife and three children, Ellen Cowgill widow & her children; & Wm. Hayhurst, who we believe are faithfull friends in their measures & single in their intentions to remove into ye aforesaid pensilvania in America there to inhabit if ye Lord permit, & we do testifie unity with their said intentions & desire their prosperity in ye Lord & hopes what is done by them will lead to ye advancement of the truth in which we are unanimously concerned with them.

Samuel Watson

George Atkinson

Francis Tennant

John Moores, Jr.

George Bland

John Hall

Nicholas Franklin

John Driver

Thomas Rudd

Anthony Overend

Ch. Jonson." (*This Certificate appears under*

*slightly different forms in various works, amongst others Fott's "Our Family Ancestors" p. 26. and Bowden's "History of the Society of Friends in America" p. 15, which gives Wrightsworth for Wrigglesworth.*)

Having arrived in Pennsylvania they settled on a tract of 312 acres situate on the Neshaminy Creek, about where Langhorne now is, in Middletown Township, County Bucks. (*Holme's Map of Penna.*) Margery Stackhouse did not long survive her arrival, but died on 11. 15. 1682, and was one of the first burials at Middletown. Thomas thereupon married his second wife,

Margaret Atkinson, the widow of Christopher, at Middletown Meeting in 1 mo. 1702, and afterwards moved to Belmeunt, Bensalem Township, where he died in 1706, in his seventy first year.

Thomas Stackhouse seems to have had some trouble in respect to his second marriage for the following facts appear from the records of Middletown Monthly Meeting.

On 3. 1. 1701 Thomas Stackhouse produced an acknowledgment for keeping unseasonable company with Margaret Atkinson. He was ordered to make his home elsewhere and not at her house.

10. 4. 1701. He does not comply with the advice of the meeting; is styled an ancient man.

11. 18. 1701. He makes another acknowledgment.

1. 4. 1702-3. They declare intentions of marriage the second time and are allowed to proceed. She was a widow with children. She subsequently married a third time John Frost, of Newtown township, who died in 1716.

Thomas Stackhouse, (together with Nicholas Walln, James Dillworth and John Eastburne) was an appraiser of the estate of Thomas Wigelsworth, of Neshaminah Creek, Pa., whose Will is dated 9. 13. 1682, and the inventory was registered 12. 27. 1685. (*Pubs. Gen. Society of Pa., Vol 1, p. 210,*)

With the same parties he appraised the estate of Cuthbert Hayhurst, late of Neshaminah Creek on 1. 11. 1683. (*Ibid Vol, I p. 211.*)

And also that of his wife, Mary Hayhurst; the inventory being registered 9. 1. 1686 and his co-appraisers being Nicholas Wallne and Robert Heaton. (*Ibid. Vol. I, p. 212.*)

In 7 mo. 7, 1692 the Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Burlington, N. J. issued their famous Declaration against George Keith "for his vile abuses and ungodly speeches against God's people; and also his separation from them and exposing of them in print and otherwise endeavoring by his misrepresentations of them to make them the derision of the heathen and scorn of foils." To this document are appended the names of two hundred and twelve of the most influential and "weighty" members of the Society. The name of Thomas Stackhouse appears among them.

His name appears as a witness to the Marriage Certificate of Henry Comly and Agnes Heaton, dated 8. 17, 1695. (*Martindale's "Hist. of Byberry & Moreland" 2st. edition p. 253.*)

It is believed he left no other children. It is possible that Thomas Stackhouse Sr. could have had children, but the probabilities are all against it. He was about forty-seven years of age, when he married Margery Hayhurst. Their married life was a short one of eight months. He was about sixty six when he married Margaret At-

son, and she a widow with several grown-up children. Again, if he had children by these wives, why were they not registered in the Meeting Records? The Society of Friends were very particular in registering the births, deaths and marriages, propounding this query to the several monthly meetings yearly, "Are Friends careful in recording the births, deaths and marriages of their children?" This was a reminder all to attend to it, and the omissions of doing were very rare, and not likely to occur, with so prominent a member of the Society as Thomas Stackhouse, and the disinheriting of his children by such a man, tho possible, is not at all probable.

The following is a copy of his Will: (Will Book C. p. 40, Philadelphia Co.)

Thomas Stackhouse of Belmont in the Township of Merion, in the County of Bucks Province of Pennsylvania a man having taken into consideration the frailty and uncertainty of this temporal life being in perfect Health of Body & of perfect mind & memory praised be God therefore Do make and ordain this my present last Will and Testament in manner & form following. That is to say. First and principally I command my Soul into the hands of Almighty God. And my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Ex. hereafter named and as touching the disposition of all Such Temporal Estate it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as followeth. First I will that my debts and Funeral charges shall be paid & discharged. Item I give unto my nephew Thomas Stackhouse one pound. Item I give unto my nephew John

Stackhouse three pounds. Item I give unto my Brother John Stackhouse & my Sister Jennit & my Sister Ellin each of them one shilling a peice. All the rest and residue of my Estate both Real and personal whatsoever I do give & bequeath unto my loving wife Margaret Stackhouse my full and Sole Executor of this my last Will and Testam<sup>t</sup>. I doe hereby revoke and disannul make void all former Wills and Testam<sup>s</sup> by me heretofore made. IN WITNESS whereof I the said Thom<sup>s</sup> Stackhouse to this my last Will and Testam<sup>t</sup> have set my hand and seal the Twenty Sixth day of the ninth month in the year of our Lc<sup>rd</sup> 1705.

Thomas Stackhouse (Seal)

Sealed and acknowledged in the presence of us

Jeremiah Scaife                      John Romford                      Jonathan Scaife

Bucks ss. These are to certify the ordinary in the office for the probate of wills and granting Letters of Administration in the City of Philadai by Marg<sup>t</sup> Stackhouse relict of Thomas Stackhouse late deceased being desirous to have this her deceased husbands will proved and not having a convenieocy to bring her evidence to the office desired me to attest two of them fact w<sup>ch</sup> I have accord.ng'y done & being attested do say (that is Jonathan Scaife & Jeremiah Scaife) that they see the said Thomas Stackhouse sign seal & heard him acknowledge this present will to be his last Will and Testam<sup>t</sup> as witness my hand the 21st of the sixt month called Aug<sup>t</sup> in the Year of our Lord 1706.

William Paxson.

Be it Remembered that on the second of Sept. 1706 the last will and testament of Thos. Stackhouse was proved according to due form of law. And Probate & Lets of Adm was granted to Margaret Stackhouse the Ex<sup>r</sup> in the sd Will named being first attested well & truely to adm<sup>n</sup> & to bring an Inventory of the Deced<sup>s</sup> Estate into y<sup>e</sup> Reg office at Phia. on or before y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> of Ober next. Given under the seal of sd office Pet Evans D. Regr.







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